

Siegfried F. Neustadter

Siegfried F. NEUSTADTER (1924–2012) (Fred) was born in Neumarkt, in central Germany. During his school years there he saw the figure of Christ in the schoolrooms replaced by that of Hitler. Because of his Jewish ancestry, Fred was forced to sit apart from his classmates, and often beaten up as he walked home from school. In 1938 his family came to San Francisco, where he attended Lowell High School. An outstanding student, he received a scholarship to attend the University of California, Berkeley. During his three years as an undergraduate he completed majors in mathematics, physics, and chemistry, often taking thirty units per semester. He chose to pursue mathematics as a graduate student and completed the PhD in 1948 with a dissertation on certain Riemann surfaces, supervised by Griffith C. Evans. Fred was honored by a three-year appointment as Benjamin Pierce Fellow at Harvard University, then took positions as applied mathematician at MIT's Lincoln Laboratory and consultant for the Sylvania Corporation. Fred joined our Department at San Francisco State in 1958 and retired in 1993. He was a codeveloper of our applied-mathematics program and a frequent consultant to colleagues throughout the College of Science and Engineering. His last published research was on the solution of the wave equation with a moving boundary. —Contributed by Newman Fisher and Robert J. Douglas, Professors Emeriti.



